VZCZCXRO7376 PP RUEHCI DE RUEHKA #0750 1270926 ZNY CCCCC ZZH P 070926Z MAY 07 FM AMEMBASSY DHAKA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3998 INFO RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 7921 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 1647 RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 9084 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1693 RUEHCI/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL DHAKA 000750

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/07/2017

TAGS: PHUM PREF PGOV KDEM BG
SUBJECT: RETURN OF SHEIKHA HASINA TO BANGLADESH

REF: A. DHAKA 0423

¶B. DHAKA 0657

Classified By: A/DCM D.C. McCullough, Reason(s): 1.4 (d)

- 11. (SBU) On May 7, Awami League (AL) leader Shiekh Hasina returned to Bangladesh. AL Secretary General Abdul Jalil told us that the government gave permission for 16 Awami League representatives, up from ten reported in the media, to receive her at the airport. Jalil vehemently rejected any suggestion that the AL would hold any street demonstrations to welcome Hasina.
- $\underline{\P}2$. (C) Asked whether the government would arrest Hasina on various charges, AL Organizing Secretary Sultan Mansur Ahmed said, "We will see, it's really up to the government." Hasina departed in March, she insisted to emboffs that she has done nothing wrong and that corruption charges filed against her by the previous government were baseless. On April 23, the government suspended a warrant for her arrest on murder charges pending further investigation.
- 13. (C) AL leader Abdur Razaaq told us that as far as he knew Hasina planned to leave Bangladesh in the first week of June to return to the United States for the birth of her daughter,s child. BUTENIS